

Mackintosh's; but if he can do anything towards bringing about a peace, this makes no difference. They say that in the city they are indulging the hope that the commissioners will agree upon the Nueces as a boundary. This is carrying the stakes and stones a little too far. "Give them an inch and they'll take an ell" is applied to many people in the world—give a Mexican an inch and he'll take at least seven miles and a half.

I must close this letter in haste, as a messenger has just come in to say that the express man is about to start. You shall be kept informed of everything.

Yours, &c., G. W. K.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The Armistice—Official Correspondence.

To the proper elucidation of the spirit with which the recent armistice was entered into between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna, we annex several important documents:

The following was the letter addressed by Gen. Scott to Santa Anna, tendering an armistice:

Head Quarters of the Army U. S. America, Coyocan, Aug. 21, 1847.

To His Excellency the President and General-in-Chief of the Republic of Mexico.

Sir—Too much blood has already been shed in this unnatural war between the two great Republics of this continent. It is time that the differences between them should be amicably and honorably settled, and it is known to your Excellency that a commission on the part of the United States, clothed with full powers to that end, is with this army. To enable the two Republics to enter on negotiations, I am willing to sign, on reasonable terms, a short armistice.

I shall wait with impatience until tomorrow morning for a direct answer to this communication, but should in the meantime, seize every opportunity to secure the cessation of hostilities, as I may deem necessary to the shelter and comfort of this army.

I have the honor to remain, with high consideration and respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

To this letter a reply was returned by the Mexican Secretary of War, of which the following is a hasty version:

MINISTRY OF WAR AND MARINE, Mexico, August 21, 1847.

To His Excellency Gen. W. Scott, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the U. S. America.

Sir—The undersigned, Minister of War and Marine of the Government of the United States of Mexico, is instructed by his Excellency the President, commander-in-chief, to reply to your communication in which you propose to enter into an armistice, with a view to avoid the further shedding of blood between the two great Republics of this continent, for the purpose of hearing the propositions which may be made for this purpose by the commissioners of the United States, President of the United States of America, who is at the head-quarters of the American army.

It is certainly lamentable, that in consequence of the disregard of the rights of the Mexican Republic, the shedding of blood has become inevitable between the first republics of the American continent; and your Excellency with great propriety qualifies this war as a natural, as well as a political, conflict, as the antecedents of two people identified by their relations and their interests. The proposition of an armistice to terminate this conflict has been received with pleasure by his Excellency the President, commander-in-chief, and it will enable the propositions to be entertained which the commissioner of the President of the United States may make for the honorable termination of the war.

Accordingly, the President, commander-in-chief, directs me to say to your Excellency that he accepts the proposition to enter into an armistice, and for this object he has appointed the brigadier general D. Ignacio Morera y Villamil and D. Benito Quijano, who will be present at the time and place which may be designated.

His Excellency also instructs me to communicate his satisfaction that the army of the U. S. States should occupy convenient and fitting quarters, trusting and hoping that they will be out of reach of the fire of the Mexican fortifications.

I have the honor to be with high consideration and respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant.

ALCORTA.

The same day Senor Pacheco, the Secretary of State, issued the following summons for the assembling of Congress:

MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AND FOREIGN RELATIONS, Mexico, August 21, 1847.

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vidual of either, shall pass the neutral limits established by the last article, except under flag of truce bearing the correspondence between the two armies, or on the business authorized by the next article; and individuals of either army who may choose to pass within the neutral limits shall be by the opposing party kindly warned off or sent back to their own army under flag of truce.

7. The American army shall not by violence obstruct the passage, from the open country into the city of Mexico, of the ordinary supplies of food necessary to the consumption of the inhabitants of the Mexican army within the city; nor shall the Mexican authorities, civil or military, do any act to obstruct the passage of supplies from the city or the country needed by the American army.

8. All American prisoners of war remaining on the hands of the Mexican army, and not heretofore exchanged, shall immediately, or as soon as practicable, be restored to the American army, against a like number, having regard to rank, of Mexican prisoners captured by the American army.

9. All American citizens who were established in the city of Mexico prior to the entrance of the army, and who have since been expelled from that city, shall be allowed to return to their respective homes or families therein, without delay or molestation.

10. The better to enable the belligerent armies to execute these articles, and to ensure the great object of peace, it is further agreed between the parties, that any courier with dispatches that either army shall desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.

11. The administration of justice between the Mexicans according to the general and state constitutions and laws, by the local authorities of the towns and place occupied by the American forces, shall not be obstructed in any manner.

12. Persons and property shall be respected in the exercise of their civil rights by the American forces. No person shall be molested in the exercise of his profession; nor shall the services of any one be required without his consent. In all cases where services are voluntarily rendered a just price shall be paid and remain unmolested.

13. Those wounded prisoners who may desire to remove to some more convenient place for the purpose of being cured of their wounds shall be allowed to do so without molestation, they still remaining prisoners.

14. Those Mexican medical officers who may wish to attend to the sick and wounded of the American army, shall be permitted to do so, provided they are not engaged in doing so of their services be required.

15. For the more perfect execution of this agreement, two commissioners shall be appointed, one by each party, who, in case of disagreement, shall appoint a third.

16. This convention shall have no force or effect until it is ratified by the two armies, and the commanders respectively of the two armies, within twenty-four hours, reckoning from the 6th hour of the 23d day of August, 1847.

A. QUITMAN, Maj. Gen. U. S. A., PERITFOR, F. SMITH, Bvt. Brig. Gen. PENKIN, J. HERRE, Brig. Gen. U. S. A., IGNACIO DE MOH, Y VILLAMIL, BENITO QUIJANO.

A true copy of the original.

G. W. LAY, U. S. A., Military Secretary to the General-in-Chief.

Headquarters of the Army U. S. America, Tacubaya, August 23, 1847.

Considered, approved and ratified with the express understanding that the word "supplies" in the second article of this convention shall be in the seventh article of this military convention (American copy) shall be taken to mean, as in both the British and American armies, arms, munitions, clothing, equipments, subsistence, (for men,) forage, money, and in general, all the wants of an army. That word "supplies," in the Mexican copy, is erroneously translated "by the word of a recusor."

WINFIELD SCOTT, General-in-Chief of the U. S. A.

The following is a translation of Santa Anna's ratification:

National Palace of Mexico, Aug. 24, 1847.

Ratified, suppressing article nine and explaining article four to mean that the temporary peace of this armistice is to be respected in the capital and at a distance of twenty-eight leagues around the capital, tracing the word "supplies" by a "recusor," meaning everything that the army may stand in need of except arms and ammunition.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

Headquarters of the Army U. S. America, Tacubaya, August 24, 1847.

I accept and ratify the foregoing qualification added by the President-General of the Mexican Republic.

WINFIELD SCOTT, General-in-Chief of the U. S. A.

A true copy of the original.

G. W. LAY, U. S. A., Military Sec'y to the General-in-Chief.

Headquarters of the Army U. S. America, Tacubaya, August 23, 1847.

To His Excellency the President and General-in-Chief of the Mexican Republic:

Sir—Under a flag of truce, I send Lt. Semmes, of the U. S. Navy; who will have the honor to exchange, with your Excellency, the ratification of the military convention that was signed yesterday by commissioners from the American and Mexican armies.

I particularly invite the attention of your Excellency to the terms of my ratification, and have the honor to remark, with high consideration and respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT, General-in-Chief of the U. S. A.

National Palace of Mexico, Aug. 23, 1847.

To His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army:

The letter of your Excellency of this date was received, in which you have pleased to state that Lt. Semmes, of the U. S. Navy, will exchange with another officer appointed for that purpose, the ratification of the military convention, which was signed yesterday by the commissioners of the Mexican and American armies, and calls particular attention to the terms of the ratification.

His Excellency the President orders the undersigned to inform your Excellency, which he has the honor of doing, to send the ratification within the time agreed upon by the armistice, and also to call the attention of your Excellency to the terms of the ratification by his Excellency the President.

LINO JOSE ALCORTA, Minister of State and of War and Marine.

SANTA ANNA'S MANIFESTO.

His Explanations of his Recent Reverses.

At some inconvenience to ourselves we lay before our readers a translation of Santa Anna's Manifesto, in which he gives his version of the causes of his recent defeat, which he does not take to deny and scarcely extenuates. It is an interesting document, and will amply reward perusal.

Manifesto of the Provisional President and Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

In moments of adversity, when the Republic becomes the duty of him who presides over the destiny of the Republic to give publicity to the recent events, and I comply with pleasure, as candor has at all times been the character of my administration. The incidents of the 19th and 20th are too notorious to have been doubted; but I am bound to present a review of them, lest they should be misrepresented, as much by the spirit of detraction and malevolence as by the errors which may result from a false analysis of such grave and transcendent affairs.

As I have witnessed the great and extraordinary efforts with which, in the space of three months, I prepared for the defence of the capital, which was on the point of being surrendered to the enemy without resistance. I have formed, armed, and equipped an army of more than 20,000 men; I have provided a vast material for this army; I have formed the nucleus of a new army; I have secured the ravages of the war; I have created resources in spite of the isolated position to which the Government was reduced; and I have spared no toil and no labor in order to make my country appear with dignity and firmness in the contest to which it was so unjustly provoked.

In war, an incident, a thing that appears trifling, overthrows the best formed combinations. A glance at the defence which I established round the city is sufficient to discover the plan which I had proposed to myself. The forces which I had advanced on one of the flanks, supported by others stationed at convenient distances, had a point of fall back upon, and were in a position which I gave notice of to the proper moment. To one general who had command of a strong division of 5000 men, with twenty-four pieces of artillery, and whose headquarters were at the village of San Angel, I sent orders at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 18th to move upon the town of Coyocan, in order to form a concentration of forces, following the movements of the enemy, which were already evident, and particularly to unfold my plan of operations. But this general, forgetting that no two men can command in a day of battle, and that for the execution of a plan, no observation which may annoy or retard it can be admitted, took upon himself to object to the orders which he had received; and as we had banished from among us obedience and discipline, so indispensable in military matters, I had to tolerate in order to avoid greater evils, and let him, to my great regret, and to the annoyance of the army, to do as he pleased. The result was as fatal as I have foreseen. He advanced, of his own accord, more than a league, and selected a position to meet the enemy without giving me notice of his movement or of his intentions. The result was that he gave me the first news of the battle, and I had no time to prepare. The cannon showed me his position, and gave me notice that an action had commenced. Although overwhelmed with a presentment of what was to happen, I put myself immediately at the head of a brilliant division of 4000 men and five pieces of artillery. I arrived at the moment when the enemy had cut off by the rear, the position of the general with a respectable force, and I was hardly able to check his operations, as the night was already setting in.

But I perceived with sorrow that the position was isolated; a deep ravine and a wood occupied by the enemy, which I could not take, rendered impossible for the troops under my immediate command to advance by the only road there was, without exposing themselves as were already the others, and only one battery, which arrived late, could do any injury. The firing having ceased, my brigade took up its quarters in the neighboring village of San Angel, because, as it rained in torrents, it would have been equal to a defeat to have kept the troops in the open field.

Previous to this, however, I ordered my aide-de-camp, Col. Romero, to pass the terrible ravine which was in our front, and guided by Don Jose Maria, who had been acquainted with the country, to reach the camp of the general, and to advise him to withdraw that very night to San Angel with his Infantry and Cavalry, by the only road which was left to him, spiking, previously the artillery which it was not possible to save. My aide-de-camp succeeded, and communicated my orders to the general, who, instead of withdrawing, instead of being obeyed with punctuality, the above named general hardly allowed my aid to pass, interrupting him by stating that he wanted 6000 men and ammunition, and sent him off with two dispatches, already signed and sealed, in one of which he gave a report of the action of the evening, stating that he would not retreat, and in the other, a shameful flight, and that in consequence, he had conferred promotions on the generals, chiefs and officers.

Early the next morning I presented myself again in the same camp, reinforced by a brigade which I had ordered to march at night, with the intention of forcing the passage at any cost; but when I was about to commence the enemy made his attack, which lasted ten minutes, and I witnessed, overwhelmed with despair, the defeat of those soldiers worthy of a better fate, because the general who unfortunately commanded them had cut himself off from his army, and he appeared terrible to my sight. The enemy could arrive by a rapid move at the capital before it would be in my power to render assistance; the enemy could by a flank movement cut off my detached forces; the enemy had obtained as a fruit of his victory the power of his bringing the whole of his forces against a part only of mine; and finally, the enemy, owing to the insubordination and want of skill of one general, could turn to his profit the advantages of my position.

The advanced fort of San Antonio could not be maintained, because our line had been cut, and I gave orders for its garrison to withdraw, whilst I protected the fort and the *dele de punto* of Churubusco. The enemy advanced and cut off part of the troops that were retreating, and appeared in front of our nearest defences. There again I placed myself at the head of our troops, and my efforts cost me a great deal of blood. The losses, although much to be lamented, naturally proceeded from the retreat, which was hasty, unexpected and confused, owing to the trains, that had to pass through a narrow lane, flanked in all its whole extent. The defence was made line to line until we were reduced to the third where personally restrained the enemy and saved the capital, which had been unexpectedly placed in danger. When I was occupied on the 22d in reorganizing the forces and manning the batteries, having placed myself again at the head of a column, which should have been at the front, to the extremity. I received a communication from the general-in-chief of the enemy, proposing an armistice that might give time to listen to the propositions which may be made by the commissioner of the Government of the United States, to put an end to the hostilities, and to accept the armistice, and after having had a meeting of the ministers, I resolved to listen to the above propositions.

The suspension of hostilities is always a blessing, because war is always an evil, particularly in the future of great nations. To see the capital of his horrors, or at least to retard them, was an emergency which I could not resist, and the more so when it presented the means of arriving at an honorable peace.

When two nations are in a state of war they enjoy the right of capturing property, making propositions, which presupposes the obligation to listen. A perpetual war is an absurdity, because it is a calamity, and the instinct of self-preservation, which is stronger in nations than in private individuals, counsel us not to refuse any means which may lead to an advantageous settlement. To adopt this step the constitution confers ample power on me.

Devoted to interests so noble and exalted, I must at all hazards maintain the prestige and respect of the supreme authority; particularly at present, when if the factions should molest the Government, they would deprive it of the liberty of deliberating, and it would fall into utter insignificance in the presence of our enemies. I will be still more explicit. Attempts at subversive sedition will be punished in an exemplary manner.

I have still a respectable force of troops and the nation will assist me to the end. To see the capital of his glory. I consider myself as free as if I had just obtained a distinguished victory, and there is no danger that the negotiators of the enemy will impose upon me, when their troops and cannon did not inspire me with fear. We will settle our difficulties amicably, if above all we will have the honor to see the end of the war.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, Mexico, August 23d, 1847.

ready to embark for Vera Cruz. The remaining companies of the 10th, under Lt. Col. Hunt, the company of Artillery and Capt. Reed's company of Texas cavalry, will form the garrison of Camargo and its dependencies, relieving the other troops now on that duty.

2. The Indiana regiment of volunteers will proceed to Brazos Island and will then, with the Ohio regiment, embark for Vera Cruz. Brigadier general Lane will take command of these regiments at the Brazos and conduct them to their destination.

3. Six companies of the 16th Regiment, under the colonel, will take up the line of march for Monterey, when they will relieve the present garrison, composed of six companies of the Massachusetts regiment. The remaining four companies, under the lieutenant colonel, will in like manner relieve the battalion of the Massachusetts regiment at Cerralvo. The troops thus relieved will proceed to the Brazos and be there concentrated under the command of Col. Wright.

4. The 12th Regiment will proceed to the Brazos as soon as practicable after the companies of Massachusetts regiment, now at Cerralvo, shall have passed down the river.

5. Brig. Gen. Cushing will take up the line of march, not later than the 23d inst., with Capt. Deas' light battery, (company B, 4th artillery.) He will proceed to the Brazos, where he will bring under his orders the 13th Regiment and Massachusetts Regiment, and there conduct his entire command (one battery and two regiments) to Vera Cruz.

6. Brig. Gen. Hopping will remain in command of the district of the Upper Rio Grande, and will establish his headquarters where he may select. Should it be found necessary to retain the general hospital at Mier, a sufficient guard will be furnished for its protection, and also a sufficient force of medical officers and attendants must be detailed from the regiments which leave their sick. Great care will be taken to furnish descriptive rolls of all attendants and patients thus detached. Col. Belknap is especially charged with the rigid enforcement of this order.

7. Col. Hays, with his command of Texas horse, will march for the Brazos, and there embark for Vera Cruz, in conformity with the instructions issued to him by the War Department.

8. The above movements will be executed with the least possible delay. The quartermasters and other staff departments will furnish the necessary transportation and other facilities for this purpose.

By order of Maj. Gen. Taylor.

W. S. BLISS, Asst. Adj't. Gen.

The Ohio and Indiana regiments, under Gen. Lane and the 13th Infantry and Massachusetts regiment, with Deas' (late Washington's) battery, under Gen. Cushing, being ordered to Vera Cruz, and Hays' regiment, being sent to the same point, let us see what troops are left on the Rio Grande line.

Gen'l Wool's command at Buena Vista and Saltillo, will consist of the Virginia, North Carolina, and 2d Mississippi regiments of volunteers, and Major Chevalier's three companies of Texas Rangers.

Gen'l Taylor at Walnut Springs will have only Lieut. Col. Fauntleroy's squadron of dragoons, and Major Bragg's battery.

The 16th Infantry, Col. Tibbatts, and the 10th Infantry, Col. Temple, will garrison Monterey, Cerralvo, Camargo, Reynosa, and Matamoros.

The squadron of the 3d Dragoons, Col. Butler, and two companies of volunteer cavalry from Alabama and Illinois, remain unassigned. A portion of the dragoons are at Mier, and it is conjectured that they will remain on the line for escort of trains and like duties. [A correspondent of the National thus sums up the troops who remain between Brazos Island and Vera Cruz:]

Brassos Island, 1 company 1st Artillery, 111 Point Isabel, 1 company 4th Artillery, 109 Fort Brown, 1 company 2d Artillery, 93 Matamoros, 6 companies, 5 of 10th Infantry, 1 of Mounted Volunteers, 511 Camargo, &c., 12 companies, 6 of 10th Infantry, 6 of 31 Dragoons, 1 of 4th Artillery, 1 of Mounted Volunteers, 1133 Cerralvo, 4 companies 16th Infantry, 404 Monterey, 6 companies 16th Infantry, 604 Camp near Monterey, 5 companies 21 Artillery, 2 2d Dragoons, 1 Mounted Volunteer, 413 Buena Vista, Saltillo, &c., 42 companies, 2191

Total number of troops, 5568

A few weeks since it was supposed that Capt. Baylor and his command had been cut off. The Flag gives the following letter from its correspondent, which assures us of Captain Baylor's safety:

CERRALVO, August 15, 1847.

Editors Flag.—My letter to you of a recent date, gave information of an attack by a large body of Mexicans upon a detachment of twenty-seven Texas rangers, commanded by Capt. Baylor, and the probable destruction of the whole party save three, who had effected their escape and gone to this place. So positively were they in their statements that I could have escaped that I did not hesitate to express to you my belief that all the rest had been killed. Such was the opinion of every one here until this morning. Greatly to our relief, and much to our astonishment, composing part of an escort to a train which arrived this morning from Monterey, there came Capt. Baylor and all but four of his reported dead companions. Their escape was truly miraculous.

Twenty-five Days Later from Santa Fe.

From the Philadelphia Ledger, Sept. 3.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 11th, 1847.

By the arrival of Mr. Autry, at St. Louis, accompanied by Mr. Barnum, of Baltimore, information has been received from Santa Fe to the 23d of July.

Letters directly from Chihuahua, and from McKenney's company and train of sixty-five men, have also arrived, dated as late as the 31st of July.

These letters contain the details of the murder of many Americans by the Mexicans. The persons and property of the Americans were generally respected at Chihuahua, but none except neutrals was permitted to leave the city, and even they were compelled to pay a tax as the Mexicans, were on their property for the privilege of doing so.

